

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 091094

42

ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 PM-07 NSC-07 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 /060 R

DRAFTED BY EA/LC:LMRIVES:DTM

APPROVED BY EA:MSTEARNES

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P 031538Z MAY 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 091094

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: MOPS, MCAP, CB

SUBJECT: SITUATION AT LOVEK

1. EMBASSY REPORTING HAS INDICATED THAT GKR INTENDS MAKE STAND AT LOVEK, AT LEAST UNTIL CIVILIAN POPULATION OF OVER 20,000 HAS BEEN EVACUATED TO KOMPONG CHHNANG.
2. FURTHER ATTACHE REPORTS INDICATE BEGINNINGS OF DOUBTS AT LOVEK ABOUT CAPABILITY ACCOMPLISH AFOREMENTIONED CIVIL-
IAN EVACUATION.
3. MEANWHILE, EMBASSY HAS ALSO NOTED PRESENCE AT LOVEK OF THOUSANDS OF CHINESE WEAPONS IN STORAGE, AS WELL AS US-SUPPLIED ORDNANCE EQUIPMENT.
4. A UPI TICKER ITEM OF MAY 2 QUOTED A KHMER FIELD OFFICER AS STATING THAT SITUATION IN LOVEK LOOKED WORSE EVERY DAY.
5. IN VIEW FOREGOING, WE WOULD MUCH APPRECIATE LATEST READING ON LOVEK SITUATION, PARTICULARLY GKR INTENTIONS AND CAPABILITIES. WE ALSO DESIRE MORE INFORMATION RE WEAPONS IN STORAGE AND ASSUME THAT IF THEY CANNOT BE UTILIZED BY SELF-DEFENSE OR OTHER UNITS, STEPS WILL BE TAKEN TO ASSURE THAT THEY DO NOT FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS. RUSH

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PAGE 02 STATE 091094

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